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to build up and maintain an expensive and powerful navy. The author is not an alarmist. In his judgment, "the North Pacific is not likely to carry the rumble of heavy gunfire in our time if self-control and reasoned sense prevail among the leading Powers of the world."

J. F. STEINER

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

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*The Press and Politics in Japan.* By KISABURŌ KAWABÉ, Ph.D.  
Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1921. Pp. xiii+190.  
\$2.00.

*The Working Forces in Japanese Politics.* By UICHI IWASAKI,  
Ph.D. "Columbia University Studies in History, Economics  
and Public Law," Volume XCVII, Number 1. New York:  
Longmans, Green & Co., 1921. Pp. 141. \$1.50.

It is refreshing to note the growing tendency among Japanese students to utilize the technique of investigation as taught in Western universities in painstaking and objective studies of their own national institutions, social, economic, and political. With the exception of a few outstanding Western interpreters of Japanese life, among whom might be mentioned Lafcadio Hearn and Basil Hall Chamberlain, the host of Western writers on Japan have too often given a one-sided picture of that country largely because of the tremendous linguistic difficulties involved in a study of materials in the Japanese language. Unfortunately, also, too many Japanese writers, with of course some notable exceptions, seem to have permitted their national loyalty to overbalance their scientific accuracy, or perhaps have not possessed the technique that would enable them to evaluate satisfactorily their social and political institutions.

The two studies of Japanese politics by Dr. Kawabé and Dr. Iwasaki are noteworthy examples of the best type of recent interpretations of Japan written in English by Japanese. American students, eager to understand the complex forces that are shaping Japan's destiny, will find these volumes full of information of real value. Studies of this nature which bear the earmarks of sincerity and accuracy will go farther toward breaking down the barriers of misunderstanding that separate the East and the West than any number of platitudinous assertions of the inviolability of a historic friendship.

It is significant that both books were written by their authors while students in the departments of sociology in two leading American universities. While the titles of the books would seem to classify them in the field of political science, they have been written from the sociological point of view and are distinct contributions to sociological literature.

In the Preface of *The Press and Politics* in Japan, it is stated that the purpose of the book is to show the influence of the newspaper upon Japanese political life. The author in carrying out this purpose not only traces the history of journalism in Japan but passes in review the significant events in the political development of that country. The long struggle of the press for freedom of expression is forcibly depicted as well as the growing influence of the newspaper in molding national policies. The American student will regret that there is no discussion of the jingo press as a factor in American-Japanese relations. The book is well indexed and contains a selected list of books and periodical literature in both English and Japanese.

*The Working Forces in Japanese Politics* is an unusually clear and concise statement and gives evidence of accurate scholarship. The American student who has been perplexed by the uncertain attitude of the Japanese in the Limitation of Armaments Conference will find this explained as he follows the author's description of the whirlpool of conflicting forces that are contending for mastery in Japan. After a brief introduction the body of the book is given over to the discussion of the following eight forces: the Emperor, elder statesmen, peers, bureaucrats, militarists, political parties, capitalists, and workers. The interplay of these forces in Japanese politics from the beginning of the Meiji era to the present is described with great skill. The bureaucrats led by the elder statesmen and aided by the militarists have made Japan what it is today. The new forces looming up above the horizon are the political parties backed by the capitalists. Still farther in the background are the workers crying out in vain for justice and for a right to participate in the formation of national policies. The book contains no index but the biographical note with a carefully classified list of references is a great aid to the student of things Japanese.

Both books are a real contribution to our knowledge of Japan and can be heartily recommended to Western students.

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